

York County Occasion For Business and Industry Recognizes Sixteen Businesses

Yorktown, Nov. 18 – The York County Economic Development Authority (EDA) and Office of Economic Development (OED) recently hosted their annual Occasion for Business and Industry. This was the 24th consecutive year that this event has been held to recognize businesses that have expanded their facilities in the County or developed new locations. The event was held at the Great Wolf Lodge, one of the award winners.

"My fellow EDA members and I are pleased to present these awards to new or expanding businesses in York County," said R. Anderson Moberg, chairman of the Economic Development Authority. "We work diligently throughout the year with the staff of the Office of Economic Development to bring new businesses to our community while at the same time concentrating on helping existing businesses grow."

Jim Noel, director of the Office of Economic Development added, "Last year we presented nine of these awards. This year, 16 were given. I believe that's indicative of the healthy business climate here."

Keynote speaker Mike Litterst, public affairs officer of the Colonial National Historical Park, addressed guests on the 225th anniversary of the Victory at Yorktown, which will be celebrated October 19-22, 2006, throughout historic Yorktown and on the National Park Service battlefields. Mr. Litterst noted that this four-day event is one of the signature events for the Jamestown 2007 commemoration and will include a variety of ceremonies, reenactments and festivities that are certain to amplify the visitor's and local's experience.

The 2005 award recipients are as follows:

- **Animal Clinic of Williamsburg** New 10,700 sq. ft. building 37 employees
- Colonial Harbor New 106,000 sq. ft. building 25 employees
- **Days Inn of Yorktown** New 23,850 sq. ft. building 6 employees

Occasion For Business and Industry

- Fairfield Resorts Regional Sales Office New 25,000 sq. ft. building 100 employees
- Farm Fresh (Route 17 and Merrimac Trail) Renovated 114,033 sq. ft. (combined total)
- **Grafton Square** New 10,400 sq. ft building 30 employees
- **Great Wolf Lodge** New 351,052 sq. ft. building 350 employees
- Hall Cabinet Shop New 9,000 sq. ft. building
- **IHOP Restaurant** New 4,200 sq. ft. building 75 employees
- **KFC Restaurant** New 4,300 sq. ft. building 50 employees
- **Lightfoot Crossing II** New 12,750 sq. ft. building 11 employees
- **Marina Power & Lighting** New 51,300 sq. ft. building 45 employees
- **Royal Farms** New 5,598 sq. ft. building 30 employees
- **Spain Commercial** New 15,600 sq. ft. building 9 employees
- **Stor Moore** New 108,400 sq. ft. building 9 employees
- **Tabb Center** New 12,200 sq. ft. building 40 employees

Also presented at this year's awards banquet was the 2005 John D. "Pete" Sterret Jr. Small Business of the Year Award given by the York County Chamber of Commerce to American Pride Automotive. According to Chamber of Commerce member Carl Loveland, "The Sterret Award will be presented each year to the York County business that most represents the values of discipline, customer service, and development (professional and business)."

Pete Sterret was the County's first executive director of the Industrial Development Authority and was largely responsible for the County's successful economic development efforts during his tenure and beyond. Mr. Sterret, who passed away last January, is credited with having the foresight to realize the development potential for York County's Lightfoot Corridor and for helping to capitalize on that potential.